

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus, comprising:
  - a first edge having a cutout adjacently located between a pair of counter bore panels; and
  - a connector assembly, including;
    - a connector having a mounting flange including a pair of inserts;
    - a pair of spacer bushings sized to be received by the pair of counter bore panels; and
    - a pair of guide pins;
  - wherein the pair of inserts are adapted to receive and secure the pair of guide pins via the pair of counter bore panels;
  - wherein the mounting flange is adapted to abut a rear face of the first edge such that the connector extends through the cutout and the pair of inserts align with the pair of counter bore panels;
  - wherein the cutout and the pair of counter bore panels are slightly oversized for the connector and respective guide pins such that once the pair of guide pins is received by the pair of inserts, the connector floats within a space defined by the cutout and pair of counter bore panels and the connector and pair of guide pins, respectively.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pair of inserts are threaded inserts.
3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein one end of each of the pair of guide pins are externally threaded.

4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the connector is a coaxial connector.
5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the connector is adapted to couple with a mating connector having receptacles to receive the pair of guide pins.
6. A backplane, comprising:
  - a rear panel including one or more cutouts, each cutout adjacently located between a pair of counter bore panels;
  - a connector having a mounting flange, wherein the mounting flange includes a pair of threaded inserts; and
  - wherein the mounting flange is adapted to abut the rear panel such that the connector extends through the cutout and the threaded inserts align with the pair of counter bore panels;
  - a pair of guide pins, each guide pin having one threaded end, wherein the threaded inserts are adapted to receive and secure the pair of guide pins via the pair of counter-bore panels;
  - wherein the cutout and the pair of counter bore panels are slightly oversized for the connector and respective guide pins such that once the pair of guide pins is received by the pair of threaded inserts, the connector floats within a tolerance defined by the oversize of the cutout and pair of counter bore panels in relation to the connector and pair of guide pins.
7. The backplane of claim 6, wherein the connector is adapted to couple with a mating connector having receptacles to receive the pair of guide pins.

8. A connector system, comprising:

one or more mating connectors coupled to a printed circuit board;

wherein each mating connector includes a pair of receptacles;

a mounting panel including a first edge having one or more oversized cutouts, wherein each oversized cutout is adjacently located between a pair of counter bore panels; and

one or more floating connector assemblies, each floating connector assembly including:

a first connector having a mounting flange including a pair of inserts;

a pair of spacer bushings sized to be received by the pair of counter bore panels; and

a pair of guide pins;

wherein the pair of inserts are adapted to receive and secure the pair of guide pins via the pair of counter bore panels;

wherein the mounting flange is adapted to abut a rear face of the first edge such that the first connector extends through the cutout and the pair of inserts align with the pair of counter bore panels;

wherein a first oversized cutout of the one or more oversized cutouts and a respective pair of counter bore panels are slightly oversized for the first connector and respective pair of guide pins such that once the pair of guide pins is received by the pair of inserts, the first connector floats within a space defined by the cutout and pair of counter bore panels and the first connector and pair of guide pins, respectively;

wherein each of the one or more mating connectors is adapted to couple with one of the one or more floating connector assemblies.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the pair of receptacles of the one or mating connectors is adapted to receive a corresponding pair of guide pins of the one or more floating connector assemblies.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the one or more floating connector assemblies moves within the defined space to align with the respective one or more mating connectors.

11. The system of claim 8, wherein the mounting panel is a backplane.

12. The system of claim 9, wherein the one or more floating connector assemblies moves horizontally within the defined space to align with the respective one or more mating connectors.

13. The system of claim 9, wherein the one or more floating connector assemblies moves vertically within the defined space to align with the respective one or more mating connectors.

14. The system of claim 9, wherein the one or more floating connector assemblies moves vertically and horizontally within the defined space to align with the respective one or more mating connectors.

15. A backplane, comprising:

a rear panel including one or more cutouts, each cutout adjacently located between a pair of counter bore panels;

a connector having a mounting flange, wherein the mounting flange includes a pair of inserts; and

wherein the mounting flange is adapted to abut the rear panel such that the connector extends through the cutout and the inserts align with the pair of counter bore panels;

a pair of guide pins, wherein the pair of inserts are adapted to receive and secure the pair of guide pins via the pair of counter-bore panels;

wherein the cutout and the pair of counter bore panels are slightly oversized for the connector and respective guide pins such that the connector floats within a tolerance defined by the oversize of the cutout and pair of counter bore panels in relation to the connector and pair of guide pins.

16. The backplane of claim 15, wherein the pair of inserts are threaded inserts.

17. The backplane of claim 16, wherein one end of each of the pair of guide pins are externally threaded.

18. The backplane of claim 15, wherein the connector moves horizontally within the defined space to align with the respective one or more mating connectors.

19. The backplane of claim 15, wherein the connector moves moves vertically within the defined space to align with the respective one or more mating connectors.

20. The backplane of claim 15, wherein the connector moves vertically and horizontally within the defined space to align with the respective one or more mating connectors.